



INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION

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TRUCK GROUP

June 24, 2004

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U.S. DOT  
DEFLECT INVESTIGATION

Associate Administrator for Enforcement  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C. 20590

04V-307  
(3 pages)

**Subject: Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report**

Pursuant to Part 573.6 (c) (1), this Vehicle Safety Defect Initial Information Report is submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration by **International Truck and Engine Corporation**.

**(1) IDENTIFICATION OF VEHICLES [Part 573.6 (c)(2)]**

- Vehicle Models Involved:
  - 9000 Series models
- Vehicle Manufacturing Dates:
  - 6/2/2002 thru 1/13/2004
- Other Identification Necessary to Describe Vehicles:
  - Vehicles with Cummins ISX engines

**(2) COMPONENT MANUFACTURER [Part 573.6 (c)(2)(iv)]**

- This report does not relate to a component supplied by a manufacturer other than International Truck and Engine Corporation.

**(3) VEHICLE POPULATION INVOLVED [Part 573.6 (c)(3)]**

<i>Model</i>	<i>U.S. Quantity</i>	<i>Canadian Quantity</i>	<i>Mexico Quantity</i>
9200I4X2	86	0	0
9200I6X4	2720	339	8
9400I6X4	3950	526	9
9900I6X4	660	483	0
9900IX	194	23	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>7610</b>	<b>1371</b>	<b>17</b>

- (4) **PERCENTAGE OF VEHICLES ESTIMATED TO CONTAIN DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(4)]**
- 100%

(5) **DESCRIPTION OF DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(5)]**

- The engine electrical harness can chafe against sharp edges on the engine. There are a number of different failures that could occur as many functions of the vehicle are processed through this harness.
- The modes of failure that could occur that may affect highway safety are:
  - Sudden acceleration without warning.
  - Activation of engine compression brake without warning.
  - Engine speed dropping to idle without warning.
  - Alternator overload and possible fire without warning.
  - Loss of engine ECM power resulting in engine shutdown without warning.

(6) **CHRONOLOGY OF PRINCIPAL EVENTS WHICH LED TO DETERMINATION OF A SAFETY DEFECT or TEST RESULTS THAT LED TO DETERMINATION OF NONCOMPLIANCE [Part 573.6 (c)(6)(7)]**

- 11/20/2003 Field notification of a vehicle instrument cluster malfunction.
- 1/13/2004 Added windlace on engine bracket above ECM to contain issue.
- 2/5/2004 Manufacturing plants began producing vehicles with extra stand-off brackets to avoid chafing issue.
- 3/25/2004 Conducted search to determine extent of suspect population.
- 5/20/2004 Reviewed suspect population and field issues to date. Decided that an analysis of all wires running through the harness was required to determine if a short in any one of the wires could result in a safety issue. All field issues reported to date were minor in nature, i.e., engine stumble or instrument cluster malfunction. This was the first meeting where International considered the possibility of risk to highway safety.
- 5/24/2004 Received first complaint of a cruise control circuit short. This caused the cruise control system to activate without warning. No vehicle crash resulted.
- 6/17/2004 International declares a safety recall.

**(7) PROGRAM TO REMEDY DEFECT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)]**

- All suspect vehicles will be inspected to determine appropriate level of remedy required.
- Remedy will consist of:
  - Inspect to determine if vehicle engine harness is damaged. If damaged, then engine harness will be repaired.
  - All suspect vehicles' engine harnesses will be re-routed and stand off brackets added to ensure no chafing will occur.

**(8) PLAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]**

- Some of the vehicles in this recall fall outside the warranty period; therefore, our plan for reimbursement of pre-notification remedies, on file and dated 2/6/2003 does apply and instructions will be included in the customer notification.

**(9) SCHEDULE FOR RECALL NOTIFICATION [Part 573.6 (c)(8)(i)]**

- Part availability is undetermined as of the date of this report. If parts do not become available within 60 days of the date of this report, dealers and customers will receive an Interim Notice according to the following schedule:
  - Notify International Dealers by: August 13, 2004
  - Notify International Customers by: August 20, 2004

**(10) INTERNATIONAL RECALL NUMBER [Part 573.6 (c)(11)]**

- 04511 (NHTSA number not assigned yet)

The undersigned should be contacted for any additional information regarding this recall on (260) 461-1890.

Very truly yours,



R. L. Van Laar

Compliance Manager

**INTERNATIONAL TRUCK AND ENGINE CORPORATION**